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Approved For Release 2003/06/03 : CIA-RDP80-01065A000600030054-0

February 24, 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Honorable
Allen W. Dulles
Acting Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Budget Submission for 1954

I have had the staff review the 1954 budget that the Board approved last October in light of the letter from the Director of the Budget of February 3, 1953, and the responsibilities of the Board and its staff, as we now understand them. The budget for the current fiscal year, 1953, ending June 30, 1953, authorizes a total expenditure of [REDACTED]. The budget approved last Fall for the next fiscal year called for a total expenditure of [REDACTED]. The difference in the two amounts is due to a number of internal staff changes proposed in 1954, the net result of which is a difference of [REDACTED]. I attach a copy, for your information, of the complete detail of our 1953 and 1954 budgets as they were submitted to the Bureau of the Budget on November 3, 1952.

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The authorized budget for 1953 has proved to be a sound estimate, based on the work of the Board as it has developed in this fiscal year. There are no allowances for any unusual contingencies which we might have to face prior to the end of the fiscal year. It will require prudent and conservative fiscal management to stay within the budget and carry out our present work program. The budget for 1954 was carefully developed and is a tight budget in terms of the projected work program as we saw it last Fall and which is still our current planning assumption.

Based on this current review of our situation, it appears to me that no useful purpose would be served by amending our 1954 budget at this time. The form and scope of the President's new psychological program will take shape in the next few months and the Board will be in a better position to deal realistically with the 1954 budget on the basis of specific policy guidance when the President's program is further revealed. Moreover, inasmuch as the Board's budget does not appear in the printed budget and is an insignificant percentage of the major appropriations which are the source of Board funds, there is no urgent need for a final decision at this time.

However,

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However, I would greatly appreciate receiving the guidance of the Board with respect to the reply to be made to the letter from the Director of the Budget. This reply, which is due on March 2, calls for a financial statement along the lines of the one I append herewith. In view of the shortness of time and the fact that I will be unavoidably absent from the Board's luncheon meeting on February 26, it would be appreciated if you would have your views transmitted directly to Mr. Charles E. Johnson, my Executive Officer, so that he can be guided accordingly in drafting the reply to the Director of the Budget. This draft will, of course, be cleared with you prior to its submission.


Acting Director

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Enclosures:

1. Copy, 1953 and 1954
budget submission
2. Financial Statement,
"Special Review of
the 1954 Budget"

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